

Appln. No. 10/789,824
Amendment dated February 28, 2006
Reply to Office Action mailed November 30, 2005

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4 through 8, 11, and 13 through 14 remain in this application. Claims 3, 9, 10, and 12 have been cancelled. No claims have been withdrawn. Claims 15 and 16 have been added.

Paragraphs 1 through 9 of the Office Action

Claims 1 through 3, 7, 11, and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Rossini.

Claims 1 through 3, 7, and 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Keyes or Halsey.

Claims 1 through 3, 8, 9, and 11 through 12 and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Rea.

Claims 1 through 3, 8, 9, 11 through 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Rodman.

Claims 1 through 3 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tontz.

Claims 4 and 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Condon, Halsey, Keyes, Rossini, or Tontz in view of Carossino or Sjobring.

It is submitted that the cited patents, and especially any allegedly obvious combination of Rossini, Keyes, Halsey, Rea, Rodman, Tontz, Carossino, and Sjobring set forth in the rejection of the Office Action, would not lead one skilled in the art to the applicant's invention as required by claims 1, 9 and 15, as well as the claims that depend from these claims.

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Withdrawal of the §102(b) and §103(a) rejections of claims 1, 2, 4 through 8, 11, and 13 through 14 is therefore respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early reconsideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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